In accordance with section 1(3) of NREGA, the Act is to be extended to the whole of the territory to which it extends with in a period of five years from the date of its enactment. NREGA was enacted on 7.9.2005. 330 Districts have already been covered under the Act in two phases. Some States have sent proposals for extension of the Act to more districts. All the districts would be covered under the Act by September, 2010.

(b) to (d) NGOs in different States have been active in awareness generation, social audit and community mobilization. The issues that emerged through the NGOs interaction with Union and State Governments are taken up for further action.

Closure of NTC mill at Gulbarga

*156. SHRI K.B. SHANAPPA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of closure of MSK mill of NTC at Gulbarga;

(b) if so, how many employees were terminated and how many employees were given VRS; and

(c) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA): (a) As per the Revival Scheme for National Textile Corporation (NTC) approved by the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) in the year 2002, all 66 unviable mills in NTC were to be closed under the provisions of Industrial Disputes (I.D.) Act. MSK Mill, Gulbarga, being one of these unviable mills, was closed *w.e.f.* 06.05.2002.

(b) and (c) When an industrial establishment is closed under the provisions of the I.D. Act, only retrenchment compensation is eligible. However the Govemment/ NTC has offered an attractive Modified Voluntary Retirement Scheme (MVRS) compensation to all the employees of MSK mill, Gulbarga. 750 employees, including badli workers, who were on roll of the mill have been paid attractive MVRS compensation and the Company has spent Rs. 2293.91 lakhs for the same.

Funds for construction of border roads in N.E. States

*157. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount allotted, during 2007-2008, for construction of border roads in North Eastern States; and

(b) the length of roads (in kms) expected to be added with the allocated funds during 2007-2008 in N.E. States especially in Assam?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) and (b) During 2007-2008, Border Roads Organisation (BRO) proposes to spend a sum of Rs. 221.27 crores for construction/improvement of Border Roads of Operational/strategic importance in